

OREGON CROP WEATHER



OREGON
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

Volume: 29-03
Released: October 20, 2003
Week Ending: October 19, 2003

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Weather: Temperatures continued to remain cool across the State this past week. Low temperatures stayed in the low twenties in south central Oregon and in the upper twenties in the northeast Oregon. Average temperatures were predominantly in the fifties and upper forties. Precipitation subsided somewhat from last week, with the concentration of rainfall in the Willamette Valley and north central Oregon. Coastal areas experienced varying amounts of precipitation. South central and southeast Oregon remained mostly dry. Fire danger in Harney County was reduced to moderate, thanks to some scattered showers.

Field Crops: Planting of fall grains continued as weather and soil conditions permitted. Field cultivation and fertilization was active. Early seeded grains and grass seed emerged in western Oregon. Some grain was seeded in dry soil. Planting of new ryegrass fields continued. Some red clover seed was still left to harvest in the Willamette Valley. The third cutting of alfalfa hay finished in Harney County. The sugarbeet harvest was in full swing, with about 30 percent completed in Malheur County.

Vegetables: There were still some late vegetables available but it was mostly squash and pumpkins. Truck gardens and farmers markets were winding down as fresh produce was mostly done. Lane County reported that garlic was in and that fall and winter vegetables were doing okay. Most areas reported that pumpkins were everywhere! Malheur County reported that the onion and potato harvests were winding down, with the onion harvest about 80 percent complete.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nurseries have been busy with trees and plants being balled and burlapped for shipment along with container plant material for out of state locations. Nurseries were also planting new stock for future harvest. Greenhouses were working on winter plants. Christmas tree growers ready to start harvest.

Fruit and Nuts: Wine grape and hazelnut harvests continued Statewide with some areas winding down. Winter pear and apple harvests are nearly complete. Cranberry harvest continued on the southern coast.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Recent rains have helped improve pasture conditions somewhat across the State, but more moisture is needed to improve forage growth before winter. In Harney County, many cows were on full feed due to poor pasture conditions. Calves continued to be weaned and shipped last week.

Crop Progress Week Ending 10/19/03

	This week	Previous week	Last year	5 year average
Winter wheat planted (%)	65	51	43	58
Winter wheat emerged (%)	32	23	14	31
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.2	6.4	—	—

Soil Moisture Week Ending 10/19/03

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil (%)	32	50	18	—
Subsoil (%)	49	40	11	—

Crop Condition Week Ending 10/19/03

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Range & Pasture (%)	16	44	36	4	—

CLACKAMAS: Early seeded grains and grass seed have emerged. Harvest of hazelnuts and wine grapes is well advanced. Most other fruit crop harvesting is complete. Vegetable supplies are still available for local distribution. Nurseries are stepping up the out-of-state shipments of balled and burlapped and container materials. Livestock remain in good condition. Pasture growth is showing a fair regrowth, but it may be too late to expect heavy forage before winter sets in.

COOS\CURRY: Dry conditions persist. Areas along the immediate coast have experienced slight amounts of precipitation, but inland areas have not. Some pastures have "greened" slightly, with seeds sprouting with the small amounts of moisture, but moisture has not been adequate to sustain the regrowth. There has been no recharge of livestock water sources yet.

JACKSON: Last sweet corn harvested; pumpkins being harvested. Grain being seeded in dry soil. Final hay harvest complete. Fall cleanup sprays being applied. Still some haying, both grass and alfalfa. Drying the hay takes a bit longer, but this week was warm enough for baling. Pear harvest is over as far as picking goes. Still lots of packing and processing of fruit. Still some apples being picked, but that too is about over. Grape harvest continued, and wineries are busy with wine making. Still some late summer vegetables at roadside stands, but now mostly squash and pumpkins being harvested. Greenhouses were still cleaning out fall flower starts and working with flowers for the winter season. Nurseries still busy with irrigation where water is still available. Also selling fall plants and shrubs. Livestock looking good where pastures are still okay. Lots of supplemental feeding, as pasture growth is very slow due to lack of rain. Still some fall weaning of calves and shipping to sales. This was another dry week, with daytime temperatures in the low seventies and nights in the forties. We really need some rain for the fall seedlings and to give some help to pastures.

JOSEPHINE: Lovely weather. Cool nighttime temperatures, mild days with slight breezes. Leaves are changing color almost overnight. Pumpkins are everywhere and grapes are being harvested. Some vineyards are saying best crop ever. Truck gardens are winding down. Fields look kind of pitiful with all the foliage frozen or left to dry.

LANE: Some apples and winter pears still being picked. Most apples are done, as are the Asian pears. The hazelnut crop and walnut crop continue to be picked. The rains the last week have helped to bring down the last of the hazelnut crop. Yields still in the 2000-2100 pound per acre area. Fresh produce should be mostly done by October 31. Most farmers markets slowing way down. Fall garlic in. Fall and winter vegetables are doing well, but the cool weather and rain has shut down most of the vegetables.

LINN: Received some rain; however, temperatures have been unusually mild and warm.

MARION: Planting of new ryegrass fields continue as weather and soil conditions permit. Still a field or two of red clover seed harvest. Herbicide and fertilizer applications being made on established grass seed fields as weather conditions allow.

WASHINGTON: Winter wheat planting continues as weather permits. Most corn harvesting finished; grape harvest nearly over; hazelnut first harvest over and second cleanup underway. Nurseries planting new stock, digging and balling trees and large shrubs for shipment, and much good stock being shipped. Vegetables abundant at farmers markets; however, most roadside stands closed. Lining fields for next planting. Weather warm with mid-week high temperature of seventy nine degrees and a low of forty nine degrees. Cattle on feed looking good; pastures showing improvement with much needed rain and warm weather.

YAMHILL: Late season apple harvest continues. The rains this week kept hazelnut harvesters out of the fields until the end of the week.

EASTERN OREGON

BAKER: Potato harvest completed. Grain planting still ongoing. Cattle weaning, prepping, and shipping continue.

HARNEY: Scattered showers helped settle the dust and reduced the fire danger to moderate. Weaning and shipping continue. Many cows on full feed already. Morning temperatures remained cool this week. No precipitation this week either. Some tall grains being planted. Third cutting finished. Calves being shipped. Cold beginning of week and hot by weekend, with temperatures of seventy five to eighty degrees.

MALHEUR: Warmer than normal temperatures have occurred for the last few days. Sugarbeet harvest is 30 percent done. Onion harvest is 80 percent done. Most of the fall field work is being completed. We are just waiting for rain! Cooler than normal during mid-week. Light frost some nights. Warmer than normal by weekend. No memorable rain. Onion and potato harvest winding down. Beet harvest in full swing.

SHERMAN: Rains showered about 30 to 50 percent of the county in early part of week, so all those acres left unseeded will be seeing a rush of activity by week's end. Range lands still short on grass, and streams still dry.

UNION: Potato and sugarbeet harvests continue. Fall planting and winter field preparation continue. Livestock roundups continue. Cold and wet weather at the beginning of the week gave way to sunny skies and well above average temperatures by the end of the week. Cold and dreary days, with a scent of woodsmoke in the air, were replaced by warm winds and the sounds of lawns being mowed. This week just proved, once again, that if you don't like the weather in Eastern Oregon, wait a few minutes and it will change.

WALLOWA: Some areas received some moisture during the middle part of the week. Temperatures climbed a little bit towards the end of the week. Still need more moisture for fall plantings and range.

WASCO: Temperatures continued cooler through the week, with rain and showers over several days. Wheat planting continued when weather permitted. Field cultivation and fertilization was also active. Most orchard activity is coming to a close. Cattle herds are doing well and a few calves are being weaned. The topsoil moisture is doing much better after this week's precipitation.

WEATHER DATA FOR SELECTED STATIONS IN OREGON WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 19, 2003 (as of 11:00 am)

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS BASE-50F		LAST WEEK PRECIP			SEASON CUM PRECIPITATION			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	PCT NORMAL	DAYS
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	42	69	57	2	49	7	0.07	-0.96	2	0.75	-0.15	97	25
Crescent City	42	69	57	2	49	7	0.07	-0.96	2	0.75	-3.25	19	17
Florence	42	70	57	3	48	14	0.89	-0.39	3	5.12	-0.29	95	19
North Bend	45	72	59	5	64	29	0.26	-0.71	3	2.51	-1.43	64	17
Tillamook	42	68	57	5	50	29	2.10	0.57	6	8.98	1.58	121	23
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Corvallis	43	79	60	8	70	46	0.35	-0.30	3	2.43	-0.57	81	14
Eugene	43	79	59	5	62	32	0.42	-0.28	2	2.57	-0.63	80	14
Hillsboro	42	73	58	6	56	35	0.79	0.19	4	3.56	0.65	122	14
McMinnville	44	76	59	6	62	37	0.75	0.07	5	2.70	-0.53	84	19
Portland	47	77	60	7	74	42	0.72	0.15	5	3.54	0.43	114	17
Salem	43	77	59	7	64	42	0.83	0.20	4	2.86	-0.15	95	15
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	34	80	56	-1	42	-1	0.00	-0.51	0	1.01	-1.02	50	5
Medford	32	80	57	2	49	11	0.00	-0.31	0	0.90	-0.68	57	3
Roseburg	41	84	60	5	70	29	0.06	-0.43	1	1.25	-0.97	56	7
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	35	78	52	5	28	19	0.35	0.14	3	1.08	-0.15	88	7
Heppner	36	81	55	4	40	20	0.28	0.07	3	0.96	-0.41	70	9
Hermiston	35	80	55	4	42	23	0.17	0.03	3	0.93	0.20	127	6
John Day	32	82	54	5	41	25	0.62	0.41	2	1.33	-0.03	98	9
Moro	35	78	54	6	36	25	0.42	0.28	4	0.81	-0.11	88	10
Pendleton	34	82	56	4	48	25	0.23	0.03	2	1.01	-0.02	98	7
The Dalles	41	78	57	8	56	44	0.48	0.32	5	0.70	-0.25	74	11
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Bend	27	77	49	3	22	13	0.24	0.10	2	0.71	-0.07	91	6
Burns	18	79	48	4	20	16	0.02	-0.12	1	0.68	-0.26	72	8
Klamath Falls	22	75	50	1	17	2	0.00	-0.23	0	0.62	-0.46	57	3
Lakeview	21	73	49	1	10	-1	0.00	-0.27	0	0.63	-0.63	50	2
Redmond	27	81	53	5	36	24	0.01	-0.12	1	0.78	0.12	118	8
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	22	81	48	2	21	14	0.02	-0.12	1	0.48	-0.64	43	7
Joseph	30	77	48	6	16	16	0.41	-0.01	5	1.17	-1.21	49	14
La Grande	28	82	54	5	44	29	0.13	-0.15	2	0.55	-1.09	34	9
Union	28	78	50	3	28	16	0.32	0.11	3	1.51	-0.10	94	14
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	33	79	53	3	30	12	0.00	-0.14	0	0.14	-0.71	16	3
Rome	24	84	57	9	58	44	0.00	-0.14	0	0.38	-0.52	42	3

Summary based on National Weather Service data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Monday, September 1, 2003.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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